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The Christian Century

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Missions' Historic Hour

An Editorial

A Possible Road to Peace

An Editorial

The Fate of England

By Oswald Garrison Villard

The Portent of Crete

By Albert Viton

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In This Issue

ALBERT VITON

is the author of *Great Britain: An Empire in Transition* and is a member of the faculty of political science at Northwestern University. He contributes regularly to magazines such as *Foreign Affairs, Asia, Harpers* and the *Nation,* and is a frequent contributor to The Christian Century. Mr. Viton was for many years a journalist in the Near East.

OPAL GOODEN

contributed her first article to The Christian Century seven years ago. It was a discussion of the movies, and probably owed much to stimulation received while taking postgraduate study under Dr. Fred Eastman at Chicago Theological Seminary. Miss Gooden first graduated from Texas Christian University at Fort Worth. Since completing her studies at Chicago she has engaged in many forms of church dramatic work and has more recently gained recognition as a magazine writer. Her home at present is in Summit, New Jersey. Although this is the time of year traditionally marked for articles bearing on the problems of this year's graduates, it seemed that there might be more food for reflection in an article written from the standpoint of a graduate of ten years ago.

OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD

now a regular contributor to The Christian Century, was formerly editor of the *New York Evening Post* and *Nation.* Mr. Villard had a prominent part in the Keep Out of War Congress held at Washington over Memorial Day.

D. P. McGEACHY

is minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Ga. His appraisals of the Southern Presbyterian General Assembly have become an eagerly awaited annual feature.

The CHRISTIAN CENTURY

June 11, 1941

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Calendar of Coming Events

June 9-13. Baptist Summer Assembly, Scott City, Kan.
June 9-13. Louisiana Pastors' School, Shreveport.
June 9-13. Memphis Leadership School, Jackson, Tenn.
June 9-13. Indiana School of Ministerial Training, Greencastle.
June 9-13. Central New York School of Ministerial Training, Tompkins County Camp, N. Y.
June 9-13. National Fellowship of Indian Workers, Farmington, N. M.
June 9-14. Missouri Pastors' School, Fayette.
June 9-15. Virginia Leadership School, Lynchburg.
June 9-16. Baptist Adult Conference, Forest Grove, Ore.
June 9-20. Southern Illinois School of Ministerial Training, Lebanon.
June 10-15. Evangelical Mission Covenant Church Annual Conference, Chicago.
June 10-19. Institute of International Relations, Wichita, Kans.
June 10-20. Claffin School of Ministerial Training, Orangeburg, S. C.
June 11-19. Baptist Student Retreat, Ridgecrest, N. C.
June 12-21. Institute of International Relations, Grinnell, Ia.
June 13. Federal Council of Churches, Executive Committee, New York.
June 13-21. Annual Conference, Student YMCA-YWCA, College Camp, Lake Geneva, Wis.
June 14-27. Annual National Cooperative Recreation School, Iowa State College, Ames.
June 15-22. Institute of International Relations, Norman, Okla.
June 15-25. Institute of International Relations, Portland, Ore.
June 16-19. Annual Ministers' Retreat, Eureka, Ill.
June 16-20. Blue Grass Episcopal Conference, Millersburg, Ky.
June 16-20. Illinois Methodist School of Ministerial Training, Bloomington.
June 16-21. United Brethren Young People's Meeting, Lakeside, O.
June 17-19. Montana Disciples Convention, Conrad.
June 17-19. Conference on Child Development and Parent Education, Iowa City, Ia.
June 17-22. National Baptist Convention, Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress, Houston, Tex.
June 18-22. State Christian Endeavor Convention, Massanetta Springs, Va.
June 18-24. Annual Conference, Church of the Brethren, La Verne, Cal.
June 18-Aug. 1. Lisle Fellowship, Lisle, N. Y.
June 21-28. Summer School of Missions, Winona Lake, Ind.
June 22-28. Disciples Laboratory Training School, Richmond, Va.
June 22-28. Summer Conference and School of Missions, Boulder, Col.
June 22-July 2. Institute of International Relations, Oakland, Calif.
June 23-26. Eucharistic Congress, St. Paul-Minneapolis.
June 23-26. National Evangelical-Reformed Christian Education Conference, Lakeside, O.
June 23-27. Hampton Institute Ministers' Conference, Hampton, Va.
June 23-28. Christian Youth Council of North America, Estes Park, Col.
June 24-July 2. Girls' Conference, Northfield, Mass.

(Announcements will be printed in this calendar as received, but must reach the editorial office at least three weeks in advance of the date mentioned.)

The
CHRISTIAN CENTURY
Undenominational

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EDITORIAL

IT WILL go down in history that during the month of May, 1941, when organized efforts to persuade the United States to enter the European war reached their height, no national body of the Protestant churches of America succumbed to war hysteria. It was not because they did not have an opportunity. During this month at least seven denominations held the national meetings through which they habitually express their minds on public affairs and national policy. While inevitably there was some confusion and division of counsel, not one of these churches urged armed intervention. Many specifically reaffirmed the judgments they had made in quieter days and upheld the rights of Christian conscience before the state in cases where these convictions lead their members into difference with the majority. While some denounced totalitarian tyranny in forthright terms and sympathized with the other democracies in their hour of trial, none declared that war is holy or that this country's mission is to be found in armed conflict. All in word and deed exalted the significance of Christian community. *Fortune* magazine to the contrary notwithstanding, the voice of the church today is much more than the echo of our own inconstant voices.

Much More Than An Echo

Battle of the Eastern Mediterranean

THE ACTIONS in Crete, Syria, Irak and Libya may all be considered as fronts in a single campaign converging on Suez—the battle of the eastern Mediterranean. The Cretan episode is now a closed issue. Germany's "precarious hold" on western Crete, as it was described only a week ago, has become a complete though costly victory on that island. Air power turned the trick. The seriousness of this loss for the British cause cannot be obscured by B.B.C. reports that the British and Australian forces "gave a good account of themselves"—as they most certainly did. The evacuation which was successful to the extent of getting something less than half of the British forces and the Greek king out of Crete and landing them safely at Alexandria, was more disastrous than the evacuation of Greece. In Irak, on the other hand, British troops have taken Baghdad, forced the reestablishment of a favorable government, recaptured the landing fields and, except for the important Mosul district, are in complete control of the country. The struggle for Syria is complicated by the ambiguous attitude of the Vichy government which holds the mandate. Vichy's position seems to be that of permitting the nazis to use Syria and its resources in the approach to Suez, and at the same time of professing to be horrified at Britain's unfriendliness in attacking Syrian air fields which are being used by Germans. Regardless of the absence of a state of war between France and Great Britain, Syria is *de facto* a part of the field of war. German forces, apparently in considerable numbers, have been filtering into it, both by air from Crete and by water along the coast of Turkey. The development of a major action in Syria or Palestine will be no surprise.

The Pope Comments on The Social Order

IN A RADIO address on June 1, Pope Pius XII made his contribution to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum* and the tenth of Pius XI's *Quadragesimo Anno,* the two great modern social encyclicals. It can scarcely be said that the address equaled in importance either of the encyclicals mentioned. It showed a sensitive social conscience, good practical sense with reference to some present questions, and careful ecclesiastical statesmanship in balancing one position against another and saying nothing which would seriously offend any except the socialists and communists, who have long since been beyond the papal pale. Against the totalitarian state there is the declaration that public authority must not encroach upon the freedom of the individual or the function of the family. The right of both employers and workingmen to organize is reaffirmed, but subject to the right of the state to intervene for the integration and coordination of their activities if they fail to accomplish this for themselves. The ownership of

private property is declared to be a natural right. But also: "Every man . . . has from nature the fundamental right to make use of the material goods of the earth. . . . This individual right cannot in any way be suppressed, even by other clear and undisputed rights over material goods." The pope does not say what should be done when and if all the material goods of the earth become the private property of a part of the people. Pius XI, in his encyclical, affirmed the right of individuals to acquire and transmit valid title to natural resources, including land. Pius XII seems to say, in the sentence last quoted, that the right of every individual to a share in such resources must take precedence over all other rights. For all his rejection of totalitarianism, the state looms large in his program of economic adjustment. It is for the state to regulate both the right of private property and the right of access to material goods for those who have no private property. But the pope also recognizes that some nations cannot solve their problems by internal adjustment, because they need more "vital spaces"—better known as *Lebensraum*—than they have. In their interest there must be free movement of populations from crowded countries to those which have "habitable regions now abandoned to wild natural vegetation." Perhaps he was thinking romantically and not very accurately of the United States—where the open frontier ceased to exist fifty years ago, just about the time of *Rerum Novarum*. In any case, he considers the shift of population only in terms of agriculture, not in terms of industrial labor which is a far more urgent problem.

Does England Support the Freedom of the Seas?

IF SPACE permitted, there are three questions connected with the President's espousal of the freedom of the seas that we would like to discuss. First, what does he mean by the phrase? Second, is it true, as he has said, that "all freedom" depends on it? Third, if this is what the United States may go to war to uphold, do the British hold the same views? Since space limitations are severe this week, we can deal only with the third question. It is a very important question, made the more so because of Mr. Eden's agreement that "the national existence of free nations must ultimately depend upon the freedom of the seas." If this means—as it would seem to—that the United States and Great Britain now see eye to eye upon this issue, either one or the other must have radically altered its interpretation of the doctrine since the autumn of 1918. Americans thought they were fighting for the freedom of the seas (among other things) in the First World War, and President Wilson put the establishment of that doctrine in the number two spot in his Fourteen Points. But when Germany asked for an armistice on the basis of those points, and Colonel House met with the leaders of the Allies in Paris on October 29, 1918, to discuss their interpretation, both Lloyd George and Clemenceau declared that they could not and would not accept the American doctrine. Colonel House threatened possible American withdrawal from the war if the doctrine was not accepted; Lloyd George replied that if acceptance of the freedom of the seas was the price of American participation, then the Allies would have to fight on alone. The whole story is told by Mr. Lloyd George between pages 41 and 48 of the first volume of his *Memoirs of the Peace Conference*. It is retold by Winston Churchill in his book, *The Aftermath*. Mr. Churchill says that Lloyd George was correct in telling House that the British nation was "absolutely solid" in rejecting the doctrine of freedom of the seas. That was only twenty-two years ago. Who's fooling whom now?

Christian Ambassadors Fulfill Their Mission

WHEN most of the delegation of Japanese churchmen sailed for home this week, a daring and successful venture in reconciliation came to an end. Because we were on the receiving end of this visit, its significance as a solvent of potential conflict may escape many. Last summer it began to be recognized that the tension between the United States and Japan was affecting relations between the Christian communities of the two nations. As this tension grew, it was complicated by the precipitous merger and Japanization of the Protestant churches of that country. As a consequence of these and other factors, two-thirds of the missionaries in Japan felt impelled to leave the land to which some of them had given decades of devoted service. Misunderstandings increased. In these circumstances, the National Christian Council of Japan, after discovering that there was no immediate prospect of a representative delegation going from this country to Nippon, decided to send nine of the leading Christians of that country to America. While they were assured of a welcome, their coming was regarded with apprehension by many of the best friends of Japanese-American collaboration. Concern was felt lest an untoward incident or unfortunate word might complicate an already difficult situation. Now it can be said at the end of their stay of six weeks that these fears were groundless and that the visit of the delegation has done untold good. Differences have been frankly discussed, and while in some cases they remain differences, they are no longer barriers. The major objective of the delegation, the interpretation of the new United Church of Christ in Japan, has been faithfully and illuminatingly accomplished. The world-wide fellowship of the Christian community is stronger because of this adventure in Christian reconciliation. We hope it will soon be reciprocated by a delegation to Japan from the Federal Council of Churches.

Eden Gives First Outline Of British War Aims

SPURRED apparently by Mr. Roosevelt's fireside address, Mr. Churchill's foreign secretary on May 29 delivered a speech which for the first time outlined something approaching an official statement of British war aims. Mr. Eden's speech contained several good points, some that were not so good, and one that was very bad. Foremost among the good points should be listed the fact that the speech was delivered. It is a good sign if Mr.

Churchill is beginning to agree that war aims are worth discussing. Moreover, the speech was encouraging in its recognition that there can be "no return to the chaos of the old world"; its adoption of world-wide social security and economic health as the principal purposes of the post-war order, and its acknowledgment that there must be an "economic reorganization of Europe." It was disappointing in its silence on the subject of colonies and the unification of Europe. Its pledges to the Arabs lent themselves to cynical interpretation in the light of Lawrence's charges after the former war. But the one point in the speech that we regard as definitely bad lay in its forecast of the treatment to be accorded Germany: "Our political and military terms for peace will be designed to prevent repetition of Germany's misdeeds." What an echo of Versailles! The trouble here may not have lain so much in what the British cabinet actually has in mind as in the way Mr. Eden said it. Such a sentence will certainly be interpreted in Germany as proof that there is nothing to be hoped for, in the event of British victory, but another punitive and repressive peace. If it had been the purpose of this statement of war aims to throw all the German people more completely into Hitler's arms and to destroy any chance of internal revolts against the nazi, Mr. Eden's formulation of British intentions could hardly have been better designed to accomplish that purpose. It is encouraging to read that this speech has already been severely criticized by Labor members of Parliament.

Senator Pepper Is Right!

OF ALL the curious episodes in this curious period surely none is more difficult to explain than the demand on the Senate for a vote of confidence in the President which Senator Pepper made two days after the fireside speech of May 27. The Senator from Florida knew perfectly well that, since this is not a government responsible to its parliament, votes of confidence are not asked or given in Washington. He must have expected that his demand for such a vote would expose him to the castigation which he in fact received from Senator George, acting leader of the administration majority. But so greatly was the fire-eating Floridan distressed by the lack of enthusiasm over the President's address that he tried to force a vote on a resolution declaring that "the President was right, and deserves the full confidence of the Congress and the country." Whatever may be thought of this strange maneuver, one thing which Mr. Pepper said when defending himself from Senator George's stinging reproof had sense behind it. Senator George had argued that "it would promote no spirit of national unity" to bring such a resolution before the Senate. To which Senator Pepper replied that if the Senate—and presumably the nation—is not solidly behind the President, it is time that the fact should be made known to the nations which are relying on presidential promises. "If that [the claim of national disunity on intervention in the war] is true," the senator from Florida protested, "the world and the nation are entitled to know it; because sooner or later we will not be able to dodge these issues." Those who are demanding a national referendum on entrance into war will agree that for once in his life the senator from Florida was right.

Missions' Historic Hour

HISTORY records many revolutions, but only one which has recurred again and again. Through many centuries, under varying forms of government, in different stages of culture, the Christian revolution has repeatedly broken through successive encrustations of the status quo and reshaped human affairs. Today there is only one substantial foundation upon which faith in the future can be founded. It is that this recurrent revolution will once again break through the crust of frustration and despair which weights down every nation on earth and allow tragically tormented men once again to eat their bread in peace and freedom.

The time is therefore ripe for the mightiest movement of expansion Christianity has ever known. Whole peoples are now confronted with blank walls at the end of the blind alleys into which they have been led. Revolutions which set out with promises of bread and freedom have dissolved into tyrannies and betrayed those who trusted them into disillusionment and cynicism. Empires in collapse are carrying down with them the fairest fruits of liberty. New imperialisms hold no promise except a repetition of the deadly cycle of ruin. Humanity is at the end of its resources. The only remaining ground for assurance for our interdependent world is to be found in the hope that the Christian church will awaken in time to its unfulfilled obligation. It must prove the universal validity of the gospel of Jesus Christ for such a world as this and for such a time as now.

Yet recent weeks have witnessed widespread missionary withdrawals—many on orders from board offices in this country and in Canada—while a mood of missionary defeatism grows apace in many churches.

Instead of withdrawal and retrenchment, the missionary policy of the church today must become more aggressive than ever before. Numerically and geographically Christianity has already become the most widely diffused religion on the globe. It alone carries within its life and message the seeds out of which a universal society can grow. The collapse or threatened collapse of political control by so-called Christian governments over huge territories is not an adequate occasion for retrenchment. What would have happened if the church had retreated to the land of its origin when Rome was overwhelmed by the hordes of barbarians from the north? It would not only have failed in the destiny-shaping mission which that particular crisis of history laid upon it, but it would have suffered irreparable damage to its own spirit.

Then as now the inescapable law of spiritual survival is: Witness or die! In recent months the churches have been greeting with high hopes what they believed to be the beginnings of a world-wide rebirth of the ecumenical spirit. Only yesterday providentially inspired conferences at Oxford, Edinburgh, Madras and Amsterdam brought

together the leadership of the universal church from the ends of the earth. But the mighty impulse which they gave to the Christian mission will evaporate and be forgotten tomorrow unless now, in the hour of humanity's desperation, that mission rouses to the watchword, "Forward!"

The mandate for immediate and far-reaching missionary expansion lies with inescapable weight especially upon the churches in America. Missions from the countries of continental Europe never recovered from the effects of the First World War. Now the present holocaust has again orphaned their missionaries and depleted their resources. British churchmen approach the same position. With one church in every twenty in the mother country already ruined wholly or partially, with members suffering great personal losses and carrying a vast burden of taxation, they too must and should have assistance from this country. American Christianity must take over these responsibilities and discharge them wherever it is clear that the growth of the Kingdom of God is at stake.

But simply holding the old line is not enough. It is no longer a figure of speech to say that in the most imminent of visible and tangible ways, our world is lost. It is headed for destruction in a hell which is far more real than any out of which rose the theological flames from which the early missionaries sought to snatch the heathen. Today we know that Christ alone can save not only individual sinners but pagan societies from overwhelming chaos and impending death. It is the essence of the Christian mission that it preach not a way but The Way, that it come with alternatives which cannot be escaped and that men recognize these alternatives as of the same stuff as the reality in which they live. The judgment of God in history today imposes an urgency and a realism upon the Christian mission which it did not have even in the first days of the evangelical revival out of which the modern missionary movement drew its greatest motive power.

Today there is an added consideration in which the youth of the church find a powerful dynamic. Salvation is not only *from* a disintegrating order. It is *to* a new society. Youth must always, in spite of the stale humor which is wasted on its vaulting slogans, be building a new world. The imperialists of all countries know that, and set millions on fire with world-girdling pictures of a manifest destiny which always turns out to be not destiny but doom. Today, with the establishment of a world order not only a technical possibility but a human necessity, the church dares not evade its responsibility to establish the spiritual basis of community out of which that order must grow. To do so would be to fail in its mission and to join the other betrayers of youth.

There is no escaping the vastness of the perils to be encountered by going forward. The renewal of the Christian witness in Russia, the forthright espousal of the one God in emperor-worshiping Japan, the struggle with totalitarianism in Germany and perhaps in America, the conflict with paganism which emerges doubly armed as the religion of nationalism in India and China—all these will take a new toll of martyrs, require a discipline of both life and thought we have not yet known and make mandatory the reordering of many institutions. But that is the way with revolutions, and the Christian revolution is more demanding than any other. This is the greatest day of missionary opportunity the church has ever faced!

A Possible Road to Peace

SECOND THOUGHTS on the President's fireside address have materially lessened the impression of belligerence which it gave on the night of its delivery. It may not have been, as General Wood declared, "the least warlike of any of the President's utterances since his election." But careful study of the text has shown that it was by no means as warlike as it sounded. Mr. Roosevelt himself took immediate steps to point this out to the nation. At a special press conference, held the morning after his radio speech, he explained that he could make no use of the vast powers placed at his disposal by his proclamation of an "unlimited national emergency" without issuing new executive orders, and that he has no intention of issuing such orders at present. He does not intend to propose convoys now, nor to ask for repeal of the neutrality act. In other words, while the speech contained a reiterated pledge of aid to Britain, it is apparently the President's intention to supply that aid, at least for the present, on about the same basis as for some months past.

The truth seems to be that the President has been sobered by two factors whose importance cannot be hidden by any propaganda, however frantic, raised by groups which are seeking American intervention in the war. The first of these is the reluctance of the American people to enter the war. A letter written by a Danish-American reader to a Chicago newspaper sums up the reality in a sentence: "I know, if war comes to our shores, in one minute America is united; if we go abroad to war, America is divided." Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion of a Bunker Hill thousands of miles from Boston has not lessened this national opposition to an overseas war, and he, with his keen perception of public reactions, must have recognized that fact. The second sobering factor is the difficulty of Britain's military position. American entrance into the war now would involve fighting for years at enormous cost to a highly doubtful outcome. And Mr. Eden has not made this prospect any more attractive for Americans by his revelation that the British government in the event of final victory intends to deal with Germany in the unrelenting spirit of Versailles.

Perhaps the most important thing about the President's speech was its indication, by its silence, that a new American policy toward Japan is at least a subject for diplomatic conversations. In this case also it was Mr. Roosevelt himself who pointed out the significance of his silence concerning Japan to congressional callers. Such a development will cause misgiving in Chungking, despite the assurances of increased aid to China. Its significance has been understood, however, in the press, in Congress, and in the armed services, and demands are rapidly multiplying for some sort of adjustment with Japan. Influential Americans are suddenly declaring that an agreement with Japan, however limited in scope or in life expectancy, is

greatly to be preferred at this time to any prospect of a two-ocean war.

The President seems therefore to have maneuvered himself into a position where he can move in any one of several directions—toward war, toward continued and perhaps increased aid to Britain, or toward peace. And the indications increase that there are peace moves of some sort afloat. There have been recent hints of such moves from the Vatican. Even more enlightening has been the sudden interest of France in possible negotiations. It is now widely believed that the Hess mystery cloaks a direct peace offer—or ultimatum—of some sort from Hitler to Churchill. Ambassador Winant's sudden trip to Washington is interpreted in some quarters as a means of transmitting this ultimatum from London to the President. In the light of such rumors new importance attaches to the recent admission of that administration stalwart, Senator Connally of Texas, that peace moves are under way and that "as far as we are concerned, if England keeps her independence and her navy, that is all we can ask."

Certainly this is a favorable time for peace moves if the war is not to be fought on for years and years to the ultimate ruin of all engaged in it. Germany has won practical control of continental Europe and is in a position to threaten the Suez canal and the Near and Middle East. Yet she faces long and exhausting campaigns, both in Egypt and in the effort to reduce the British Isles. Britain, on the other hand, has reached a low point where her hope for ultimate victory rests on American intervention. As Mr. Villard shows elsewhere in this issue, a victory gained on such terms might be almost as galling to powerful elements in Britain as some composition with German ambitions. Under any circumstances, both sides confront the prospect of an exhausting war, with no guarantee of a better peace at its conclusion than might be secured now by negotiation. It is only Russia that can be sure it does not want peace now, which gives point to the disclosure in the current *Newsweek* that the Communist party line in this country has suddenly shifted to opposition to a negotiated peace and to the fact that the *New Masses,* Communist weekly, launches a vitriolic attack on Lindbergh in its current issue.

The time is favorable for mediation; the difficulty is to find a mediator. There are no real neutrals left; no governments whose motives are not open to suspicion on the part of one belligerent or the other. The pope's location under the shadow of the Axis probably renders him unavailable. Mr. Matsuoka evidently made some preliminary moves in the direction of offering mediation a few weeks ago, and was promptly snubbed for his pains. Certainly President Roosevelt cannot pose as a neutral. Under his guidance the United States has become as much a non-belligerent ally of Great Britain as is Japan of Germany. The South American republics, because of their acceptance of Mr. Roosevelt's leadership, are in no better position to act.

In the absence of a satisfactory single mediator, is it not time to explore the possibility of a joint offer of mediation? Specifically, might not the United States and Japan, acting together, place before the warring powers proposals which would open the way to a peace as just and as likely to be lasting as any to be gained after further years of mutual destruction? Thus put forward, the proffer of mediation could not be regarded as a partisan or "loaded" stratagem. And coming from powers in the West and in the East it could insure that the negotiations would cover more than a limited arrangement between the present belligerents; it could propose a general conference to negotiate those world adjustments — both political and economic — which must be gained if the next peace is to be more than another armistice.

We believe that the people of the United States would enthusiastically approve any move which their President might make to launch such a joint offer of mediation. For the American people hope heart and soul that they will not be called on to fight a European or an Asiatic war. We believe that the people of Japan would respond to such an approach. For the people of Japan are coming to fear that, under the leadership of their militarists, they are being lured toward catastrophe. We believe that millions in Germany and in England would welcome any proposal that offered an honorable alternative to a conflict which is likely to continue until all Europe is smashed into ruin. Cannot the President, who now confronts such an intolerable dilemma if he moves in any other direction, at least explore the possibilities of a joint offer of mediation and see how it would be received?

The Seat of the Scornful

EDITOR THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY:

SIR: The other day in an idle mood I turned over the pages of the minute book of an old Puritan meeting-house. It bore signs on every page that it came from a church in which discipline was severe against offending members. Probably it was easier for the scribe to record such cases than to tell of other experiences which they enjoyed, when these pilgrims had "sweet fellowship" in their meetings. Nonetheless, the cases of discipline were set out in stern language. But one charge caught my eye and set me wondering.

A certain brother was rebuked and disciplined for *raillery.* I wished it had been possible to go into detail upon this offense. I even wondered whether if you and I were to go over our back numbers we should not have been found guilty of this or something like it.

What did that brother in the seventeenth century do? Did he make satirical remarks about the preacher's sermons? Did he make fun of the mannerisms of the elders? Did he count the times the preacher said "—er" as he hesitated in his discourses, or was he discovered mimicking Brother Ezekiel as he carried the collection plate (or did they use bags, or neither)? Was he a young member who was anxious to keep up with the times and made jests not convenient concerning the antiquated teaching of the beloved pastor? Anyhow he has long ago paid for his erring ways; let him rest in peace.

Samuel Johnson—I proceeded to refer to him—defined raillery as "slight satire." It must be distinguished from

the satire of a Juvenal or a Swift; it has also an element of laughter in it. The man who rails intends to excite merriment by his satire. And here I imagine we can see the dividing line in church or other serious assemblies between a jesting which is not convenient and one which is most convenient and sorely needed. Here, too, we may discover in what cases that old community was perfectly justified in condemning the railer.

There is an hour in which friends will feel it right to talk wildly and extravagantly, defend impossible positions, make fun of each other, and the entire conversation becomes a spiritual riot or an intellectual pandemonium. Everybody rails, and no one is any the worse for it. But there are other occasions on which foolish and perverse men set out to make sport of the very things in which in reality they believe. They play at being above the simple folk who express their faith in crude language. They get a reputation for satire and they try to justify it wherever they can find an audience. They come to be proud of their sharp tongue, and though they are not at home there in plain fact, they sit in the seat of the scornful.

Now if the serious saints took pains to deal with such a railer, were they not justified? It is more than likely that there were better ways than a public rebuke. But they were right in regarding such idle words as a danger to the brotherhood.

Perhaps the quickest way to silence such railers is to confront them with a perfectly single-minded man who, without any striving and without even a word of rebuke, brings them back to sincerity and truth. I read in a novel, *The Voyage,* the brilliant episode in which the single-minded vine-grower enters a company of witty folk who had been tossing to and fro a serious theme. The unexpected visitor brought a new direction into the talk; one of them said, "—and the cock crew." There are times when the railer needs to hear the cock crow. That is better than discipline in the courts of the Lord's house.

But I had to put down that old Puritan minute book still not knowing whether that brother had been sitting in the seat of the scornful, or had only wounded the self-esteem of Brother Esdras.

Ever yours,

QUINTUS QUIZ.

VERSE

A Prayer for Charity

BECAUSE I do not always know
Of hidden thorns that goad the flesh
Beneath the mask of face and dress,
I shall deal gently as I go.

Because I do not always see,
Under quick words or sudden stress,
The sting of some lost happiness,
I shall essay true charity.

Always, dear Lord, I ask a mind
That does not need a spear-torn side
Or sight of body crucified
To teach me not to be unkind.

EDWIN O. KENNEDY.

Moonlight: Modern Style

EVEN the moon, which poets used to praise
For its pearled light of mystery and dream,
Now is the herald of disastrous days
And lantern for the bombs that shriek and scream!

Even the moon, with its pale witching spell,
Now guides the death-armadas down the sky.
Man claims the earth. Must heaven's spheres as well
Bow as his minions where the charred towns lie?

Moonlight and lovers, music and romance!
How strange one radiant orb has come to be
The pilot while all horror's fleets advance—
The mark, for hosts, of blind, black tragedy!

STANTON A. COBLENTZ.

Today

THE pagan gods of force reclaim their altars,
The kings of blood again set up their thrones.
In these sad days 'tis only Christ who falters:
He finds no churches—only splendid stones.

THOMAS CURTIS CLARK.

Speak through the Living Silence

(Tune: Bremen)

SPEAK through the living silence,
O God of grace and power,
Make me to feel Thy presence
Within this holy hour.

Speak through the day's confusion
Of pain and dull unrest;
Stir up the gift within me
To serve Thee at my best.

Speak through the circling seasons,
O Thou who givest all,
And let me share Thy labor,
Alert to heed Thy call.

Speak through the clamoring tumult
Of strife and hate and fear;
Help me to hear Thy clarion
And know that God is near.

Speak Thou, O God of glory
Whose mercies never cease,
Make haste to bring Thy Kingdom
And grant to men Thy peace.

GEORGIA HARKNESS.

The Portent of Crete

By Albert Viton

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE to exaggerate the far-reaching significance of the present phase of the war. The events in Crete, Irak, Syria and on the Egyptian-Lybian frontier are vastly more important than the duels of the German and British air forces around the British channel, and the results of the struggle in the Near East will have a much greater effect on the eventual outcome of the war than most of us seem to realize. To put the matter bluntly: should the Axis succeed in its efforts to drive the British out of the Near East the chances of an ultimate British victory will be reduced by 80 per cent, if not more.

Many factors give the Near East a greater importance in the present war than it ever had before. The first thing that comes to mind is oil, which Germany needs badly and with which the Near East is richly endowed. At present shortage of oil is one of the greatest problems confronting the German war machine. Germany produces small quantities of synthetic oil; she commands the whole Rumanian production, and she has at her disposal the small quantities produced in other European countries. But the whole European production is not sufficient to satisfy more than a quarter, or a fifth, of the Continent's needs.

Oil and Food

The oil problem is especially serious if Europe is to become self-sufficient in food production. Before the war the Continent depended for from 20 to 40 per cent of its foodstuffs and essential fodder on outside sources which have been largely cut off by the British blockade. Now, Europe could be made self-sufficient in all essential foodstuffs. Production could be greatly increased in the eastern and southeastern parts of the Continent by means of scientific cultivation and modern machinery. But tractors and combines require oil and gasoline, and until the reich obtains sufficient quantities of these precious fluids the "new order" must remain a dream.

The Near East alone could more than satisfy all of the Continent's petroleum requirements. It is probable that the whole Near East from the Persian gulf to the Mediterranean floats on a sea of oil. Production in Mosul (Irak) could be increased many times above the pre-war level, while rich sources remain to be tapped in Syria, and possibly also in Palestine. The reich would not even need control of the Mediterranean to bring the oil to Europe. There is a fairly adequate railway line through Turkey, and construction of a pipeline should not present insurmountable difficulties to German engineering.

Conquest of the Near East might even make unnecessary an invasion of Britain. Possessing the almost unlimited agricultural and industrial possibilities of Europe and the Near East, Berlin might simply leave the British in possession of their island while proceeding to reorganize and reconstruct the Continent along nazi lines. The Near East provides vast colonization possibilities for the surplus population of Italy and of other countries, and after a few years those settlers would be producing foodstuffs and some raw materials needed for the reich economy. Probably 30,000,000 human beings eventually could be settled in the empty spaces which would thus come under Axis domination.

Escape from a Continental Prison

Even more important are the strategic factors involved. Master of Europe that Hitler is today, he is nevertheless at the dead end of a blind alley. A gigantic blind alley, to be sure; but a blind alley nevertheless. He is confronting the identical problems which confronted Napoleon and, to a lesser extent, William II. Lacking a fleet sufficiently powerful to drive the British off the seas, he remains unable to break out of his continental prison. And in the long run this factor cannot but have telling effects. Like the mill of the gods, the British blockade may grind slowly; like the former, however, it grinds very effectively.

Two escapes, and two escapes only, are open to the nazis. First, they might attack Russia and make their way through the vast regions of central Asia to Persia, Afghanistan, India, China. One does not need to take much stock in the professions of love coming from Berlin and Moscow to see that nazi leaders are not likely to take this route. I believe that a clash in that part of the world is inevitable if the nazis emerge victorious in the present war, unless of course Stalin submits without a clash. But it would be pure madness to open a new front before the war is finished in the west.

The other escape lies through the Near East, which is separated from the European mainland by a narrow ditch known as the Straits. Once established in the Near East, Africa and Asia would lie open to the nazi mechanized columns and infantry forces. There would be no need of a fleet; all-land routes to the far-flung parts of the British empire would be available. For it is inconceivable that Turkey would put up serious resistance against being converted into a highway for German troops on the march to Asia and Africa. Eager to avoid new resistances, Berlin is not yet demanding the right of way from Turkey. Once the latter is surrounded, a single wink should be sufficient to place at Berlin's disposal all of the Turkish means of communications.

Land Power Unshackled

This is what gives the Near East such crucial significance in the present conflict. Control of the sea lanes has hitherto been Britain's trump card. But once established in the Near East the Germans would be able to play no-trumps. The tremendous extension of their lines of communication would of course present obvious dangers. It might even enable the Allied forces to effect a landing somewhere in the rear, if the Germans were forced to spread themselves out too thinly. Unfortunately, it would be exceedingly dangerous to entertain too much hope of

such a development. Even a small land force can make a sea-landing very costly, if not impossible, and command of the European iron and steel industry as well as the oil of the Near East would certainly give the nazis great mobility.

Why Attack Crete?

Fortunately for the Allies, Berlin has never cherished the idea of fighting the stubborn and hardy Turkish soldiers entrenched in the mountainous terrain of Anatolia. I am inclined to believe that the Turks might have fought even after the collapse of Greece if presented with a demand for the right of way. It is not impossible also that Turkey has been spared as a concession to Russia. Be the cause whatever it may, the Germans decided to adopt a route which is far more daring, more dangerous and infinitely more costly. They decided to detour Turkey, to surround her, and to reach the Near East without control of the Mediterranean. That is the meaning of the attack on Crete.

Geographic and strategic factors unfortunately played into the nazi hands. A glance at a map will show that the Mediterranean is four or five times as long as it is wide. While some 2,200 miles separate Gibraltar from Anatolia, the sea is nowhere more than 600 miles wide, and in most of the area the distance between Europe and the African and Asiatic mainland is around 300 miles. Numerous islands, moreover, reduce even this distance. The meaning of these factors is obvious. They mean that while the British navy has had to patrol no less than 2,200 miles of water (and most of the time under the potential eye of enemy aircraft), a vastly smaller naval force, or a military force possessing some other form of locomotion, could use with telling effect the classical pincer tactics of reducing one part at a time.

That is precisely what the Germans have tried to accomplish by their aerial invasion of Crete. Their purpose has been a double one, dictated by the strategic considerations briefly outlined in the previous paragraphs. Located about 180 miles from Piraeus, Crete reduces by about a third the distance from the western coastline of the Mediterranean to Egypt and Palestine. Once entrenched in Crete, the nazi air force can easily close the Aegean sea, and perhaps even the eastern Mediterranean, to the British navy; the naval base at Alexandria, less than 400 miles distant, can be kept under constant patrol; at the same time they can go ahead with preparations to repeat the same tactics at Cyprus, which is located about 350 miles from Crete and is far less fortified than the latter. The next jump to Syria (less than 100 miles), to Palestine (about 175 miles) or to Port Said (around 230 miles), should present no great difficulties.

Can the Germans reach the Near East in force by this round-about route without going through Turkey? The next few weeks will provide the answer. Prophecy would be foolish. But I cannot conclude this survey without a word about the meaning of the present phase of the struggle to us. Briefly it means that if we really intend to aid the hard pressed Allies, the time is now—and there is not an hour to be lost. I doubt very much whether our airplanes, tanks and navy will be of much use once the Germans are entrenched in the Near East—unless we are prepared to meet them somewhere in eastern Asia or in south Africa and attempt to drive them back, step by step, to Europe. Grandiloquent promises for 1943 or 1944 are now worse than useless.

Class of '31

By Opal Gooden

THIS JUNE marks my tenth college reunion. Something has happened in those ten years which identifies my college generation more clearly than the '31 we used to wear on sweaters. Perhaps this is the usual egotism of all groups, pretending to be unique. Perhaps, but not necessarily.

Do you remember what the world was like back in June 1931? The big brains were still looking for prosperity corner. President Hoover was trying to talk us out of bank failures and bread lines. The week I graduated the newspapers reported a Hoover speech urging faith, fortitude and courage in this time of economic stress; Mussolini (called respectfully "Il Duce" in the headlines then) dissolved the Catholic youth clubs in Italy; Al Capone faced the possibility of a 32-year sentence for income tax evasion; Chancellor Brünning of Germany and Prime Minister MacDonald of Britain met to consider Germany's threatened economic collapse; and the National Socialists, under their leader Adolf Hitler, won two-thirds of the local diet seats in the Oldenburg elections. This last item was carefully noted on page 8 by the *New York Times* but was overlooked by most of the other newspapers. The Chicago world's fair was ready to celebrate a "Century of Progress," Edward G. Robinson was strutting across the screen as "Little Caesar," Lynn Fontanne and Alfred Lunt held the drama spotlight with "Elizabeth the Queen." Radio listed popular music as "jazz." A headline read, "Lindy Plans to Fly Pacific with His Wife," and the Presbyterians went on record favoring the World Court and prohibition education. Women's skirts were long, golf knickers fashionable. Engineers predicted practical television by 1932 and New York University seniors predicted the election of Governor Roosevelt as the next President of the United States.

A Distracted World

Hindsight is simpler than foresight but that is the world the class of '31 faced the morning after the diploma business. We dressed up in caps and gowns, went through certain rituals which included speeches on character, hap-

piness, beauty and the marks of an educated man. My particular group of bachelor candidates were exhorted by a suspiciously successful politician. According to the newspaper accounts we were told, "Character is the supreme essential in the crown of man." All I remember about the speech was that my feet hurt and I slipped my shoes off. From all parts of the country the ten-year-old newspaper files reveal only small variations in the commencement address themes.

Part-Time Jobs

We were not helpless lambs in a wolfish world the day after graduation. We had tight jaws instead of wide eyes. We knew we could not expect to find jobs, any jobs, immediately but we expected to keep trying. Class engagements were "understandings" that year, marriages few that summer. For a lot of us it had been touch and go to pay college fees. A privately owned textbook was a luxury. Professors' salaries were slashed, library books worn and new books added cautiously. The social science majors were almost as numerous as the English majors. Economics gave Shakespeare stiff competition.

In the next two or three years more of the girls found steady jobs than the boys. The social science majors and even some of the literature and art students became case workers for the relief agencies. An $80 a month salary was a good break but a car was frequently required to hold the job. Some boys worked for their fathers if they were in business, hoping later to find the work they were trained for. A number of my friends have abandoned the main line of their interests after years on one or more sidetracks. Many of us, more than the usual percentage of the class, took graduate work in universities in order to be better trained when some day we would be needed. As students we were temporarily off the unemployed lists. In the graduate house where I lived for two years, all but two of the residents held one or more part-time jobs. Several students sent money home to their families.

History in the making invaded our peace of mind, if we had any. In September 1931 Japan invaded Manchuria but during the next few years the world broke out in a rash of non-aggression pacts, all of which have since been broken. In 1932 the newspapers still printed "nazi" in quotation marks. Also in that same year the Lindbergh baby was kidnaped, Ivar Krueger, the Swedish match king, committed suicide, Richard Whitney issued statements on the soundness of the New York Stock Exchange, Samuel Insull was indicted, Hoover turned the troops on the "bonus army" in Washington, Mayor Walker of New York skipped the country just in time, and the tomb of the Unknown Soldier was dedicated in Arlington. In November, many of us voted for the first time in a presidential election.

Birth of New Hope

The next few years were exciting. For a while it looked as if things could happen in this country worth working for, the things we said in social science classes had to happen or else. Wages went up, hours down, unions grew in mass production industries, farmers got attention. The TVA and other huge power projects got under way. So did reforestation, social security, CCC and NYA. We were not disturbed by experimentation and large-scale planning. Old frontiers might be closed but here was a kind of pioneering to fire the imagination and to test our hardiness. As a generation we were too young and inexperienced to take over commanding officers' posts in this war on poverty and insecurity but we could serve in the ranks.

Many of us worked in jobs our parents did not consider suitable for college graduates. We certainly were not earning as much money as they thought we should nor receiving the professional advancement they thought we deserved. WPA work, particularly on the white-collar projects, proved a life-saver to more of my generation than our elders cared to admit. In our ten years we have held a lot of jobs, gained more practical experience, used more ingenuity and patience than would have been necessary in more "normal" times.

Our personal lives were heavily conditioned by national and international affairs. Getting married hinged on jobs and jobs grew out of what happened in Washington. Among my friends marriage was certainly "for better or for worse." "Better" if the man and girl both had jobs, "worse" if either lost a job or children came too soon. A combined income was usually just enough for a small apartment, a minimum of furniture, if any, and no maid service. Books from the library, plays and music from a $10 radio, an occasional movie and lots of talking were the diversions.

After Ten Years

Now, in our early thirties, we are beginning to get a little more than a toe hold on living. Our marriages are a combination of adventure and hard-headedness which gives small recognition to the sheltered wife and the domineering husband-provider. Our pattern of married life and the values we honor differ sharply in some ways from our parents'. Our children, now that we dare have them, are mostly infants instead of the seven-and-eight-year-olds they should be. Too many of our children are yet unborn and too many of our generation remain unmarried. Useful in our jobs at last, we are beginning to accumulate a record of accomplishment. We are glad to move out of that nebulous state of being "young persons of promise."

Our next ten years should find us hitting our stride. But once again the cards are stacked against us. We were children when the last war ended, adolescents through a post-war boom, young adults through a post-war depression and now maturing adults in a pre-war boom that verges on active war. Remember that we, too, are of conscription age. We have marked time so long that another year—or more—out of our lives means a terrible loss to us, more than to those under twenty-one. Our emerging maturity is to be twisted and warped into a stupid military straitjacket. Our experience with people and machines is to be commandeered for destruction instead of enlisted for reconstruction of the nation and the world which has yet to recover from other wars.

The oldsters have staged a comeback on the national and international scene in a way that broken down vaudeville actors have dreamed of doing for years. They use the

same patter, the same routine and give the same answers to the same gags. They have grown older without growing wiser. The only "solution" for unemployment which the older generations have applauded is conscription and defense production. The only housing program worth attention is barracks and "defense" housing. The only economic order they will support which differs from Coolidge days is a war economy.

Where was all this enormous mobilized energy when the "war" was against poverty and injustice on our home ground? Poverty and injustice are the enemies my friends and I still want to crush. We want a chance to fight on that front and fight hard before arthritis sets in or we get blown to bits. Unemployment to us has been more than statistics, insecurity more than fanciful imaginings, frustration more than a psychiatrist's thesis. The "depression" never meant for us losing what we had. It meant failing to achieve what we were told to expect and finding instead new values which neither our elders nor our juniors have experienced.

We do not presume to know all the answers but we still possess the curiosity and the discipline to look for them. We do know that the new wine will burst the old bottles. We recognize the noble pronouncements of today as the same platitudes that have been going the rounds for years. They look rather silly in the cold print of yellowing newspaper files. We came out of college thoroughly disgusted with the antics of the 1920's. We have done our best to try to keep our heads clear, our feet shod and our eyes focused. Ten years after 1931 we are not another "lost generation" unless those in the saddle are determined to make us one.

The Fate of England

By Oswald Garrison Villard

So far as this unhappy country, England, is concerned, it appears that we cannot hope to get out of the present confusion by ourselves and that we have to choose between being beaten and then dominated by nazi Germany, or else to overcome her with American aid and thereby become the junior partner of the United States. I need hardly say that of the two, most people, including myself, would infinitely prefer the latter alternative. I do not know anyhow that it would be good for us to dominate the world ourselves any longer since the job we made of it has helped to land the world in the present catastrophe. Needless to say, I agree with you that a real international society should not be dominated by any one nation and that American domination would postpone the coming of a truly united world just as much as British or German domination.

THUS a distinguished British novelist writes me, and those are the facts. The world leadership of the British people is at an end. If, thanks to us, England is preserved, it will not only be in the humiliating position of a junior partner of ourselves, but it will be so crippled by the human and material costs of the war that it cannot possibly recover quickly unless it repudiates its war debts, as those of Germany were wiped out by the defeat and the inflation, and there is developed sound and aggressive leadership in addition to a decent world order. If England must yield to Hitler then it will go through a period when its fate will depend, like that of the other conquered nations, upon the evolution of National Socialism and the general economic development in all Europe. That there will be a permanent enslavement of these people I do not for a moment believe. I admit, however, that the situation we shall then have to face will be different from any previous one and that I may be entirely in error. I base this belief, however, upon my lifelong knowledge of the German people and their strange character, and on my feeling that the nazi economic system cannot possibly succeed for very long, that it has within it the seeds of its own death, and that a regime built up by force, fraud, personal dishonesty and wholesale murder cannot last.

Let us assume that England will win with our aid. It will be in debt to us for such tremendous sums, if the war lasts a couple of years longer, that it can never hope to repay us. It still owes us $5,561,792,208 from the last war. Every argument that the British made against repaying us after the last war will be two or three times as cogent after this one. If England wins and the Hitler government collapses, we certainly are not going to insist that a large portion of British industry should continue to produce munitions, guns and other war materials to replace those given to England under the lease-lend law. We would have no need for them if the German menace to the peace of the world is removed. In that case Japan will be dreadfully weakened, if the Chinese war has not by then wound up the former's totalitarian government, and Russia will be the only remaining great power heavily armed. Unless there is a tremendous change in Russia both in purpose and in efficiency of execution, Stalin will hardly embark upon a crusade against the world when he cannot make his own government efficient at home.

Debts That Cannot Be Paid

There is no evidence today that our shortsighted leaders in government and in industry are ready to do away with the tariffs which by themselves made impossible England's repaying its war debt to us. Of course, if the United States should merge itself with Great Britain and there should be a joint citizenship for Americans and Englishmen, such as Churchill offered to France in those terrible days of May 1940, the situation would be changed. But assuming that England retains its individual national life, repayment by England will be impossible. If the war continues long enough we shall have to advance money to England in order to keep her from actually going into bankruptcy. I mean money for running expenses without regard to what she may seek to pay to us for goods.

That the dominions will emerge from the war with

heavy debts is also indisputable. They have not introduced conscription, as we have, to help the mother country, but they are voting staggering sums and placing a large part of the burden on generations yet unborn. They will have their hands full in years to come restoring their peacetime economy and paying off their debts unless they, too, decide to repudiate by giving to the repudiation process the pleasanter name of a capital levy, or by demanding that all patriotic citizens turn in their government bond holdings over a period of years as fresh proof of their loyalty. It was not the wiping out of the German war bonds that wrecked the German people so much as it was the inflation and other post-war economic conditions.

An Unwelcome Prospect

Human nature being what it is, no one likes to be heavily in debt to one person, so heavily as to have to recognize that his very existence is due to the benefactions of his patron. Few friendships can survive financial transactions of this kind, and what is true of individuals is true of nations. When you have been ruler of the world you cannot be expected to accept second place with entire cheerfulness; it will be still harder to submit to instructions from the senior partner as to what you should do and how you should do it. The British financiers and newspaper kings will find it extraordinarily humiliating to be second fiddle to ourselves, especially in view of our insularity. Their feelings will be intensified if India and South Africa should secede from the empire, if their colonies are placed under international rule, as they most certainly ought to be, and if our American ships should displace theirs as the largest mercantile fleet.

A realization of this alternative for England, to which my novelist friend refers, appears to be growing in England, at least in business circles. So far England has been able to hold on to its American properties with the exception of the Viscose Company, which was bought by American capitalists—including the Morgans—on twenty-four hours' notice, on, it is believed, the direct orders of President Roosevelt who was getting restless under the charge that the British were not making sacrifices enough before asking us to empty our pockets. However, they are still keeping a large amount of tonnage in service on neutral lines, notably in the Far East, when they could if they had to, switch over these vessels to the crucial north Atlantic run and let their places be taken by American and other vessels. Naturally they do not wish to give up routes that they have monopolized and hope to build up further when the war is over.

Peace Feelers?

There are observers in Wall Street who today believe that there is something going on in the way of peace negotiations under the surface. They attribute these negotiations, if there are such, to a realization that the United States will come out of this war holding a huge mortgage on England while the latter's chances of emerging a commercially powerful country wane day by day. Nations always say that they are going to fight to the last ditch and occasionally, but not often, they do. The big business men in England, and those covered by the designation of the "Cliveden set," were the two groups that stood most strongly behind the Chamberlain appeasement policy and so long saw in Hitler a welcome defender of Europe from the threat of Russia's communism. It would be only natural if they should be convinced by what has happened in the Balkans and what is happening in Crete, and the inability of the United States to furnish ships in large numbers in less than three years, that England cannot hope for a real victory, and that they should begin to ask themselves whether a post-war half-loaf of bread would not be better than a few crusts. It is the plain people in England who have thus far insisted that there should be no negotiated peace; doubts were never heard among the heroic victims of the vile bombings until after the practical abandonment of Plymouth a month or so ago. Then, so London correspondents reported, survivors said that they could still "take it," but they began to ask whether it was worth the fight.

Social Reforms?

Again, the realization in England that there are certain to be drastic social reforms adds to the anxiety of British capitalists. It would be bad enough to be second fiddle to the United States. But Sir Gerald Campbell, British minister to the United States, has just said in an address in New York that "a new order which Adolf Hitler could not conceive" is being born in Great Britain today out of common danger, common suffering. He added that "the flame of our common effort has burned away the barriers of class and caste which have so complicated the pattern of our social life, and have left us a people united as never before." He expressly stated that this did not mean socialism or the adoption of Marxian doctrines—only the establishment of the principle that a British citizen hereafter will be entitled "to a standard of nutrition as well as of freedom, to good housing as well as the habeas corpus, to the right to work as well as the right to vote." It is devoutly to be hoped that this is true. It is certainly most encouraging to have such statements come from so high an official. But the fact remains that every day this war continues lessens the ability of the post-war British government to make good those promises which it is making to its own people.

Undoubtedly the advocates of Union Now will see in all this a trend toward their proposal, a condition which will make people ask more and more why we shouldn't amalgamate the British empire and the United States and set up a great joint Anglo-Saxon partnership to face together the question of redeeming the world from the horrible waste and the bankrupting outlay of the world war. Perhaps the situation *will* help their propaganda. But that, too, will not sugar-coat the pill which the British people will have to swallow when the war is over and their complete subservience to the government in Washington becomes apparent. Their fall from world domination is the price that they will have to pay for the incredible stupidity of their own statesmen in permitting the evils of the Treaty of Versailles to go uncorrected and in allowing Adolf Hitler to invade the Rhineland, introduce universal conscription and pile up the armaments which have brought England so near to disaster.

BOOKS

Paradise, Limited

WHERE ANGELS DARED TO TREAD. *By V. F. Calverton. Bobbs-Merrill Company, $3.00.*

UTOPIAN thought has a history that goes at least as far back as Plato. In more modern times, and especially when the age of geographical discovery had opened up new areas to settlement so that the planners of perfect communities were no longer limited to the realms of imagination, there began a long series of attempts to realize these hopes of an ideal society. "Reformation without tarrying for any" was the slogan of the English Independents who were not willing to wait until the whole church could be reformed as they thought it should be. It might also have been the slogan of those brave spirits who undertook to create perfect communities in the midst of, but separated from, the general mass of unregenerate society. The title of Mr. Calverton's book suggests that they were angels who dared to tread. The general impression is that they were rather fools who rushed in.

But, angels or fools, or a mingling of both, they were stout souls and bold innovators. Some were three-quarters religious fanatic, like Kelpius of the "Woman in the Wilderness" movement, who led his followers to the frontier (near Philadelphia) to await the coming of Christ in 1694—but meanwhile wrote hymns and published the first American book of music. Some were three-quarters charlatan, or became so under the temptations of temporary success, like John Alexander Dowie. Some were romantic idealists, topheavy with theories but short on muscular industry, like the Brook Farm people. But most of them had a deep sincerity of purpose, a power of leadership which enabled them to get and hold a following, a tremendous amount of courage, and one or two sound ideas about the needs and hungers of the human heart. Perhaps the thing that most of them had in common was their recognition of the human desires for brotherhood, even within a limited circle, for economic security, even on a modest scale of living, and for the emotional satisfaction of being right even though all the rest of the world is wrong.

It has been estimated that more than two hundred of these Edens have been founded in the United States. Nearly all of them were in some sense communistic. All that were communistic are dead. Mr. Calverton treats only about twenty of these experiments in perfection, but he includes two, not communistic, which are still going concerns —the Mormon church and Father Divine's "heavens." He begins with the Labadists, an interesting group that was more important in Europe than in America but that comes within the scope of the volume by having had an American colony, Bohemia Manor, which was the pioneer communist society on this continent. It had perished by 1727, scuttled by its leader, the avaricious and "capitalistic" Peter Sluyter, who was this country's pioneer racketeer in idealism. The Labadists were followers of the "inner light," devotees of the simple life, and seekers of a pure and primitive Bible Christianity. A study of them in their European setting, and of Penn's visit to them and his attempt to make them Quakers, and of their noble patroness, Princess Elizabeth of the Palatinate, who settled a colony of them on her estate at Herford, is much more rewarding than the record of their futile effort under bad leadership in Maryland.

Ephrata, the Rappites, the Shakers, Oneida and Hopedale are among the religious communities to each of which the author devotes a chapter. Robert Owen's New Harmony, the transcendentalists' Brook Farm, and Bronson Alcott's equally transcendentalist (but not Fourierist) Fruitlands are chosen as representative secular paradises. It is to be observed that in all those communistic experiments which showed any vitality at all or prospered for any number of years, religion was the dominant motive. Of all the leaders of ideal communities, the "infidel" Robert Owen is the one who has the largest place in the history of social thought and of humanitarianism, but no community collapsed more quickly or more completely than his. There were, of course, other contributing factors in its failure, but the total body of evidence seems to show that religion has survival value in a completely socialized community. The communities that prospered most and lasted longest were those that had a body of religious conviction that not only bound them together but cut them off from "the world." And then, being cut off, they withered. It may be added that a very large proportion of all these communities had some fantastic, or at least peculiar, doctrine of sex.

The author's selection is representative but everyone who has explored this lunatic fringe of religion and social progress will know of some other group which he would like to have seen treated. My nomination would be Thomas Lake Harris' "Brotherhood of the New Life" at Brocton, in western New York, now perhaps chiefly remembered, if remembered at all, for Laurence Oliphant's connection with it. But this suggestion, unfortunately, cannot reach Mr. Calverton, who died before this volume was published. He had written many vigorous and thoughtful books, but none better than this. He had a free and unconventional mind which enabled him to treat sympathetically the efforts of these bold experiments, even when he disagreed with their ideas.

W. E. GARRISON.

Books Received

Man's Vision of God and the Logic of Theism. By Charles Hartshorne. Willett, Clark & Co., $3.00. (To be reviewed.)

Social Welfare in the Catholic Church, Organization and Planning through Diocesan Bureaus. By Marguerite T. Boylan. Columbia University Press, $3.00. (To be reviewed.)

Christian Attitude towards the Emperor in the Fourth Century. By Kenneth M. Setton. Columbia University Press, $2.75. (To be reviewed.)

Heresy and Inquisition in Narbonne. By Richard Wilder Emery. Columbia University Press, $2.50. (To be reviewed.)

Finger Prints of Bible People. By Florence Aiken Banks. Revell, 2 volumes, $1.00 each. Naturally they are not literal fingerprints. They might equally well be called footprints. The brief Bible stories—more than a hundred in each volume—are like quiz program questions of the who-was-it type.

Democracy in the Middle West, 1840-1940. Edited by Jeanette P. Nichols and J. G. Randall. Appleton-Century, $1.25. Five papers presented at a session of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association are the material of this small but valuable volume. The authors are competent authorities who have given much study to the history of the middle west. Their contributions were well planned to treat the movements of the century in this area in historical sequence, and to give a broad picture with due regard to the rich variety of elements and influences which constitute its details.

Spurs on the Boot. Italy under her Masters. By Thomas B. Morgan. Longmans, $2.50. Mr. Morgan was in Italy as a cor-

respondent during the twenty years following the Other War and has had personal acquaintance with most of its leaders. They do not appear to advantage in his intimate views of them, but the Italian people are praised and the courage of Italian soldiers is viewed with respect. The subtitle of this vivacious and episodic recital of two decades of fascism might well have been the phrase with which the book ends: "Italy was betrayed."

The Child Speaks, The Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency. By Justice Jacob Panken. Henry Holt & Co., $2.50. Really it is the judge who speaks in this book, more than the child, though a series of letters which have passed between the judge and some of the children who have been brought before him reveals also the child's point of view. But this judge, with many years on the bench of the children's court in New York city, is much more than a judge. He is a wise friend who considers his work with a child only begun when he has decided the case before him. The main theses of the book are that the "delinquency" of children is curable (indeed, in most cases it is not delinquency at all), and that it is the fault either of particular adults who have neglected or corrupted them or of social forces for which the adult community is responsible. Years ago Sam Jones said that "the best way to bring up a child in the way he should go is to go that way yourself." Broaden this into an injunction to adult society to set the right example to children and to provide them with wholesome environment, and add a specific analysis of the present harmful influences and the ways in which they should be corrected, and you have an outline of Judge Panken's book.

CORRESPONDENCE

Checking Historical Precedents

EDITOR THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY:

SIR: President Roosevelt thinks that the war with France under President John Adams and the war with the Tripolitan pirates under President Jefferson were "undeclared wars," thus giving him authority to wage an "undeclared war" against the Axis.

According to *Annals of Congress* (vol. 9, p. 3754), Congress, on July 7, 1798, abrogated all treaties with France and passed an act requiring the President "to instruct the commanders of the public armed vessels which are, or which shall be employed in the service of the United States, to subdue, seize, and take any armed French vessel, which shall be found within the jurisdictional limits of the United States, or elsewhere on the high seas . . ." and in the same act authorized the President to grant letters of marque to privateers to operate against French vessels. If this was not a declaration of a naval war against France, what was it? In any event, President Adams was specifically authorized by Congress to wage this "undeclared war" against France.

As to the "undeclared war" against the Tripolitan pirates, it may be said that on May 14, 1801, the pasha of Tripoli cut down the flagstaff of the American consulate in Tripoli and declared war against the United States. Not being satisfied with the lenient measures adopted by President Jefferson, Congress, on December 15, 1801, called upon him by resolution "more effectually to protect the commerce of the United States against the Barbary Powers." However, Jefferson refused to wage war against the Barbary pirates until he was authorized by Congress to do so.

Chicago, Ill. ERNEST BRADSHAW.

Interfaith Relations in Germany

EDITOR THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY:

SIR: On the confusion in the case of Martin Niemöller, an exchange of letters that I have had with a Lutheran pastor in Germany may throw some light. This pastor makes no reference to Niemöller, but calls my attention to frequent discussions that are taking place in Germany between the Lutherans and Roman Catholics. These are very serious discussions with sincere attempts on both sides to find grounds of unity. May it not be that Niemöller has pursued these discussions so far as he can in a concentration camp, and has committed himself so far as to say that as a Lutheran he might be a catholic? Consider these extracts from a letter dated March 29, 1941:

"Regarding the Roman Catholic Church as I know it in Germany and our Lutheran Church I want to state the following: We have actual unity in doctrine. The symbols and creeds of the first seven centuries are acknowledged in both churches, the Bible is the fundamental book for both churches (and that does not mean fundamentalism, for the whole sum of issues of the critical science has been adopted in both churches as far as it is reasonable—the great *Theologisches Wörterbuch zum N. T.*, edited by Protestants, is used in both churches and has been enthusiastically welcomed by Roman Catholic theologians); the Protestant creed, Confession Augustana, has been written to show that the Lutherans are catholics; the doctrine of 'justification by faith' which has been the chief article of difference has been acknowledged by the Roman Church at the Council of Trent, as far as it has ground in the Scriptures. Today we realize that the Lutheran theologians have not been in perfect harmony with the Bible in that doctrine. They have overlooked the mysticism of the Bible as well as the sacramentalism of the Bible. . . . Even the doctrines which refer to the pope and to the mother of the Son of God have their ground in the Bible and may be discussed. Furthermore, we have unity in the sacraments. . . . Of course, I am fully aware of the fact that your church is much farther from Catholicism than mine. But if Lutherans and Catholics may have communion, as well as Lutherans and Congregationalists, why should all three not have communion?"

This pastor studied for a year in America nearly ten years ago; he is a man of mature and studied Christianity. He confesses that he is not hopeful about union between Roman Catholics and Lutherans in matters of organization. Perhaps a parallel can be drawn between this man's position and Niemöller's. To do so doesn't seem to me far-fetched. Perhaps Niemöller has come to terms with Roman Catholic theology in this fashion.

Community Church, DOUGLAS V. MACLEAN.
Wapping, Conn.

Mr. Roosevelt as Mediator

EDITOR THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY:

SIR: It must be incomprehensible to most of your readers, as it is to me, that you seemingly advocate seriously that the President assume the role of peacemaker and arbitrator in the present European conflict of England's own brewing—see your editorial, "America's Forgotten Role." How can you expect the people in the Axis countries, particularly the people in Germany, to entrust their fate to Franklin D. Roosevelt knowing his vindictive attitude toward them? Do you think that the Germans are naive enough to have confidence in him when you know that a large majority of Americans who have been naive enough in the past now lack confidence in him? The Germans have not forgotten that in 1918 another Democrat, then President, betrayed them with high sounding phrases and they are not likely to overlook the fact that by an unfortunate quirk of fate another Democrat occupies the White House who is even more pro-British and more violently anti-German than Wilson was and who is also addicted to the glib use of high sounding phrases which, the Germans may have reason to believe, should they again be asked to lay down their arms, may amount to nothing more than just "a bit of campaign oratory." Surely the Germans will not be easily bamboozled into another Versailles. They might as well surrender unconditionally to the British and let Churchill impose the penalties, which would likely be no more severe than if the most pro-British American the world has ever known did the job himself.

No lawyer in his right mind, whose client's liberty or life depended on the judgment of the court, would try his case before a judge so obviously biased. If an American is to be peacemaker and arbitrator between England and Germany Franklin D. Roosevelt is obviously not fitted for the job. Charles A. Lindbergh is infinitely better qualified for so great a role.

Crookston, Minn. P. B. GAASS.

NEWS *of the* CHRISTIAN WORLD

War Boom Crowds Capital Churches

Some Washington Pastors Hold Extra Morning Service—New Head for American University

(Correspondence from Washington)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 22.—Probably no city in the country is experiencing such rapid growth as is Washington. Reaching out into Maryland and Virginia suburbs where living is somewhat cheaper, the population is spreading until well over a million people now live in the Washington area. Defense projects of course are responsible for this sudden growth. To the credit of pastors throughout the country be it said that the volume of letters to ministers in the capital telling of the arrival in Washington on government service of John and Thomas and Mary is prodigious. Local pastors are making every effort to interest these newcomers and are meeting with a good deal of success. The incoming workers seem to be religiously inclined. Several of the larger churches are finding it necessary to hold an extra service on Sunday morning to accommodate the increase. No church, however, has been driven to this expedient as yet to take care of Sunday evening crowds.

* * *

Enthusiasm for USO Appeal Lacking

The campaign is about to be launched for funds to carry on the work of the newly created United Service Organizations. As yet the amount of enthusiasm manifest is discouragingly meager. If the country were actually at war it probably would be different, and it may be that when the effort really gets under way the public will respond generously. At present, however, the ten-million-dollar-plus goal looks a long way off. A careful setup in each municipality in the land is making ready for the June appeal to the American pocketbook.

* * *

Citizens Hold Memorial For Senator Sheppard

The death of Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas removed a devoted friend of the temperance cause. A memorial service in the Senate chamber was so poorly attended and withal so perfunctory that citizen friends under the leadership of Clinton N. Howard of the International Reform Federation held one of their own on a recent Sunday afternoon at Calvary Baptist Church. Senators Capper, Connally and Pepper, and Representative Guyer, paid glowing tribute to the author of the 18th amendment. This little man from the southland was nothing if not courageous. His annual speech on the state of the nation, bibulously speaking, was not always delivered before a crowded or even mildly enthusiastic Senate chamber, but Morris Sheppard of Texas was held in great respect nevertheless, not only for his personal character, but for the convictions he so tenaciously held.

* * *

Dr. Paul Douglas Heads American University

American University has a new president, or to be perfectly correct, its first president, inasmuch as the institution's head up to now has been designated "chancellor." The new executive is Dr. Paul Douglas, a young man of considerable experience although but 37 years of age. He comes from Vermont where he has been serving a term in the state senate. A campaign to raise a greatly needed $100,000 for this institution is under way. Now that the university has been restored to the accredited list of schools of higher learning, a rapid growth is predicted.

* * *

Picketing the White House Becomes a Custom

Picketing is quite within the bounds of the law, at least so the courts have ruled. Just how much real good is accomplished by patrolling the sidewalk in front of the White House is open to question. If it is not one group it is another that seeks thus to gain the attention of the President and enlist his sympathies. A short time ago it was a company of the physically handicapped who pitifully paraded up and down hour after hour and day after day, displaying placards that called upon the government to provide work or furnish adequate care. Just now it is the American Peace Mobilization that has taken over. Nothing is done to molest the picketers. They are allowed to continue their ceaseless around-the-clock vigil, back and forth until exhaustion eventually brings it to an end.

* * *

Is It 'Steps Short Of the Saloon'?

Can a man put less liquor under his belt when he sits at a table than is possible when he stands up to the bar? This is a question which is agitating local officialdom. Heretofore the drinker has been obliged to take his drinks sitting down, the idea being that he would partake more leisurely and consume less. But police officials for some reason have now come out in favor of perpendicular thirst quenching. Step by step we return to open-bar and brass-footrail conditions. Did they tell us that under no circumstances would the saloon be allowed to return?

* * *

And So Forth

The death of Dr. G. Ellis Williams of this city at 51 has taken from the ranks of the local clergy a man highly respected and greatly beloved. Dr. Williams has served several local Methodist churches as pastor but at the time of his death was district superintendent and doing an exceptionally fine piece of work in that capacity. His death was unexpected.

Washington clergy spent a very profitable day recently as guests of the cathedral in a quiet discussion of problems growing out of the war situation. Dr. E. Stanley Jones was the honored guest and leader in the day's discussions. W. S. ABERNETHY.

Social Workers Blast Governor

Fear Talmadge Plans to Bring Welfare Work Under Political Control—Japanese Delegates Speak

(Correspondence from Georgia)

MACON, May 20.—Meeting here in their annual convention Georgia social workers denounced Gov. Eugene Talmadge for his administration of the state department of public welfare. Their condemnation of the present welfare setup was in large measure provoked by an official announcement that all department employees will be required to stand new civil service examinations because those given last year by the previous administration were incomplete and inadequate. Several prominent delegates charged that the re-examination is a device by which the governor hopes to obtain absolute political control of the department and its employees. But while "off the record" criticisms were extremely severe in their tone, the official pronouncement of the conference was mild and conciliatory. It was the consensus of opinion that new examinations are unnecessary but the resolution that was finally passed was an innocuous document which pledged the cooperation of the conference with efforts to maintain standards of efficiency in the welfare department.

* * *

Protest Publication of Pensioners' Names

The delegates also protested against the governor's action in publishing the names of those receiving pensions or other public assistance, declaring that this will make the beneficiaries victims of politicians or unscrupulous insurance salesmen. And opposition was expressed to recent legislation which gives the governor virtually unlimited power to remove welfare officials and workers. This law was denounced as contrary to the regulations of the federal Social Security Board and predictions were made that it would stop the flow of federal funds to the state. In private interviews with newspapermen conference leaders pronounced as ominously significant the failure, for the first time in the history of the organization, of the Atlanta welfare department to be represented at the convention. And they charged that threats and coercion had been used to prevent certain state social workers from attending the meeting.

* * *

Endowment Campaigns Conducted

Dr. James McDowell Richards, president of Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, announces an addition of $200,000 to the endowment of the institution. The movement to raise the fund was inaugurated two years ago when a generous friend of the seminary, who prefers to remain anonymous, made the proposition

that he would match dollar for dollar all gifts up to $100,000 with the time limit set at May 1 of this year. So Presbyterians of the Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi and Alabama synods, which own Columbia, conducted a quiet campaign which produced a large number of individual subscribers.

The Baptists of Georgia have in recent weeks launched a movement to raise $5,000,000 of endowment for their three senior and two junior colleges. Mercer University here is to receive the major portion of the fund, $3,600,000.

* * *

Japanese Christians Visit Atlanta

Dr. Soichi Saito, general secretary of the Y.M.C.A. of Japan, Hon. Tsunejiro Matsuyama, member of the Japanese Parliament, Dr. N. Matsuyama, associated with the department of forestry of Japan, and Dr. Michio Kozaki, pastor of the First Congregational Church, Tokyo—all members of the deputation from the United Church of Japan—spent two days recently in Atlanta. They were guests in the home of Dr. W. Harvey Clarke, who for 40 years was a Southern Baptist missionary in Japan. They attended the Sunday evening service at the Druid Hills Baptist Church and after Dr. Clarke had presented them to the congregation Dr. Saito, who is a deacon in the Central Baptist Church, Tokyo, responded in an address in which he declared:

"The deputation is a unit in its firm conviction that war is not the way out of the tension between the two nations. It will therefore strive to preserve peace. However, it does not think of its mission in political terms but is determined to keep it a clear-cut Christian venture." Monday morning the group attended the meeting of the Atlanta Baptist ministers' conference and Dr. Sanito and Dr. Kozaki spoke to the preachers. Mr. T. Matsuyama, a deacon in the Congregational Church, declared there never has been any desire on the part of Japan to acquire control or possession of the Philippine Islands and Hawaii.

* * *

Georgia Needs Doctors

At the annual convention of the Georgia Medical Association, held in Macon, the president of the organization declared that the state is facing a critical medical problem because so many physicians have been called into service in connection with the national defense program. In many sections of the state there is a serious shortage of doctors. Before the defense program was inaugurated Georgia had one physician to each 1,560 persons—in the rural areas one for 1,800—while the national average was one for 785. There is an imperative need for more physicians to practice in the rural areas.

* * *

And So Forth

The Atlanta Christian council reports that an all-time high in Atlanta's religious history was reached in the recent city-wide simultaneous revival services when 100,000 people attended the meetings during the two weeks' period and there were 4,088 additions to the churches.

J. Maurice Trimmer.

Man's Search for Himself

by EDWIN E. AUBREY

"These lectures are a searching inquiry into the nature and experiences of human personality. They embody the latest findings of scholars in the field of psychology, both individual and social. And an attempt is made to define the way in which the Christian man can proceed to understand himself and realize in his living the highest attainments of which he is capable."—*Religion in the Making.* "Incisive style . . . keen and discerning analyses . . . well-founded conclusions which provide an understanding of man from the Christian point of view which is both lucid and convincing."—*Christian Century.* "A searching book . . . a stimulating study of the problems of human personality—man an individual in the necessary framework of society."—*Expository Times.*

The Topics: Starting Points in the Search. The Solitariness of Man. The Person in Community. The Search for Integration. The Search for Freedom. Conclusions from the Search. **$1.75**

Life's Intimate Relationships

by TALMAGE C. JOHNSON

"With a freshness and scholarship that make the book a unique achievement in the field, the author applies the Christian point of view to the many and complex problems that arise within the whole area of sex, marriage, parenthood, and family life. . . . The serviceableness of the book is increased by suggestive questions and a list of books for further reading on every chapter topic . . . a suitable basic text for extended study in this field."—*Pulpit Bulletin.*

Some of the Topics: The Christian View of Sex. The Mastery of Sex. Anticipating a Successful Marriage. The True Value of the Self. The Way of Successful Parenthood. Do You Like Your Parents? How to Get Along with In-Laws. Facing Domestic Crises. Beyond Life's Intimate Relationships. **$1.50**

Faith Is the Answer

by SMILEY BLANTON and NORMAN VINCENT PEALE

"Easily the most important and valuable of the many recent books dealing with psychiatry and religion."—*Review and Expositor.* "One of the best books to put into the hands of the ordinary non-college person who has a religious faith and desires to understand more about himself from the depth-psychological point of view. . . . It is to be recommended to laymen and ministers who wish an excellent simplified statement of depth-psychology, to laymen who are in search of inspiration, and to ministers who wish to add to their repertory of inspiring illustrations."—*Rollo May (CHRISTENDOM).*

The Chapters: Fear, Worry, and Anxiety. Conscience and the Sense of Guilt. Self-Criticism, Failure, and Success. Grief and Sorrow. The Company of the Lonely. Love and Marriage. The Faith That Heals. **$2**

How Came the Bible?

by EDGAR J. GOODSPEED

"A very important and remarkable little book . . . the story of the formation, transmission and translation of the various books that make up the Old Testament and the New Testament. Dr. Goodspeed includes in his narrative a description and analysis of the Apocrypha . . . as an illuminating connecting link between the Old and the New Testaments. . . . The pages are a delight to read carefully; the author's ability to condense an immense amount of detail and quantity of historic data amounts to definite genius. . . . I know of nothing to compare with this volume in scholarship, in dramatic detail, clarity and simplicity."—*The Chronicle.* "Who better than Dr. Goodspeed could write this fascinating story?"—*International Journal of Religious Education.* **$1.50**

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Emeny Attacked For Peace Views

Foreign Policy Leader Declares Latin America Not Enthusiastic for Hemisphere Defense—War Debate Hot

(Correspondence from Northern Ohio)

CLEVELAND, May 31—The month of May has increased war consciousness among susceptible Clevelanders. All the national committees seem to have trained their big guns on this city. At least six major rallies have taken place. One was broken up by hecklers. Dissension threatened the America First group. Sharp editorial shafts have been directed at all non-interventionists. Brooks Emeny, director of the Foreign Affairs Council who has recently returned from an extended trip through South America, began the exchange when he urged an intensive program of national defense without another "continental crusade." He reported much less sympathy with United States policies than is generally believed. He was promptly and roundly denounced as "dishonest" or "confused" by leaders of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies.

* * *

Peace Rallies Mark Mother's Day

The America First Committee rallied 6,000 on Mother's Day to hear Congressman Fish of New York and Kathleen Norris, the novelist, hit the trend toward war. The rally competed with the traditional "Mother's Day peace parade," an event originating in Cleveland. Harry F. Ward addressed several thousand paraders and spectators on the public square after the parade, describing England's war policy as leading toward a "new streamlined Anglo-American imperialism." As an aftermath, the America First Committee has been reorganized and incorporated, with several local politicians eliminated. The incorporators charged that these men were attempting to use the committee to advance their own interests.

* * *

'Union Now' Meeting Broken Up

A near riot resulted when hecklers from other groups forced themselves upon the organization meeting of a Cleveland branch of Federal Union on May 16. A police detail worked for 30 minutes to create order. Elaborate precautions were taken to prevent a repetition of this scene when Clarence K. Streit, author of the "Union Now" plan, appeared here Wednesday to explain his scheme for a federal union of the world's democracies. The first national convention of this movement has been announced to assemble in Cleveland on June 28 and 29.

* * *

2,000 Hear Fosdick Urge Peace

With less than a week's notice a committee of 121 Protestant ministers organized itself and produced an audience of more than 2,000 to hear Harry Emerson Fosdick on May 22. It was Dr. Fosdick's first public appearance in Cleveland in ten years. It was also his first address in behalf of the Ministers' No War Committee on a tour through the midwest. He advocated a non-belligerent role for America in preparation for the "more positive, redeeming role of mediator" when the nations of Europe finally meet at a conference table.

There has been some criticism that the meeting was held under false pretenses because several sponsors denied sympathy with the purposes of the No War Committee, but wanted a Fosdick meeting in Cleveland. W. W. T. Duncan of Lakewood Methodist Church was chairman of the committee.

* * *

Asserts Religion Sustains British

At a men's dinner of the Congregational union Edgar S. Chandler of Boston, who had just returned from a trip of observation in Great Britain, said that much of the British unity is due to the religious spirit and ministry of the church. Sir Wilmott Lewis, British journalist, in the latest rally held here on Thursday, said the world must choose between the mass state of Hitler and a society of democracy. He spoke before the first annual meeting of the British War Relief Society's Cleveland regional committee.

* * *

Euclid Avenue Church Has Brother's Day

May 18 was "Brother's Day" in Euclid Avenue Baptist Church. Edwin McNeill Poteat planned a unique service as a sequel to Mother's Day; he asserted that denial of the spirit of fraternity in current human affairs was evidence of serious moral decline. This original idea would seem to have possibilities for religious preaching and practice.

* * *

New Opportunities Seen in Japan

The new union church in Japan was described by Ralph E. Diffendorfer, foreign missions executive of the Methodist Church, as a real test of American missionary spirit. He spoke before the Methodist district conference. The transfer of administrative positions to Japanese Christians will not do away with the necessity for American missionaries and American money, Dr. Diffendorfer said, but would impose a severe test on the cooperative spirit of the American churches.

* * *

Marriage Tests Begin In August

Beginning Aug. 15 Ohio will join 30 other states in requiring applicants for marriage licenses to furnish evidence that they are free from communicable disease. The new law makes mandatory physicians' certificates that applicants are not actively syphilitic, accompanied by blood test reports from an approved laboratory.

* * *

And So Forth

A. H. Hook of Troy is the new moderator of the Ohio conference of Congregational-Christian Churches.

W. W. T. Duncan has been elected president of the ministerial association of Greater Cleveland for the next year.

O. M. WALTON.

Presbyterians Ban War Participation

General Assembly Votes 'Utmost Aid' But Not 'Military Participation'—Adopt $8,000,000 Budget

(Special Correspondence)

ST. LOUIS, May 28.—After the warmest debate of the 153rd General Assembly, some 900 Presbyterian commissioners from all over America adopted a peace resolution a few hours before President Roosevelt's "national emergency" broadcast which deserves to go down in history. Opposition to the "pacifistic" resolution as presented by the standing committee on social education and action was led by Henry Sloane Coffin and John A. Mackay. The novelty of witnessing the presidents of Union and Princeton seminaries supporting identical positions overwhelmed many delegates, but did not prevent William Lindsay Young, retiring moderator, Julian Price Love of Louisville and Floyd V. Filson of Chicago from successfully coming to the support of the committee's principal proposals.

Coffin a 'Conscientious Objector'

When debate opened on the report of the social action committee, Dr. Coffin came to the platform and expressed himself as "a conscientious objector" to the committee's recommendation. He then moved to delete a sentence which said that "the ways of Christ are the ways of peace." After a struggle this motion carried, the amended and still potent section then reading:

"Section 11—Christians are united in affirming that the gospel is the gospel of justice, love and brotherhood. Especially in the midst of a world at war, the church, through the prayers, fellowship, vision and sacrificial endeavors of her members, must witness to that spirit and life through which alone can come the healing of the nations."

A Loss or a Gain?

Encouraged by this partial victory, Dr. Coffin then moved to delete Sec. 12 as proposed by the committee, which said that the church renewed its position that war is a manifestation of the power of sin and that the church, having raised up a generation in this teaching, "dares not desert" them. As a substitute for it he succeeded in getting the assembly to adopt again its 1939 action, which had been proposed as an overture to the synods and rejected as "too pacifist." The revised statement, which follows, was supported as being stronger than the original:

"Section 12—It is the duty of church and government to work for a just and peaceable ordering of human life, within each nation and in the society of nations, and for the furtherance of desirable change without violence. Both must labor to remove those tempers and injustices which cause conflict, and to establish peace. War, wherever it appears, is a manifestation of the power of sin in the world. It defies the righteousness of God, disrupts his world-wide family, and outrages the human personalities which Christ came to redeem.

Even when war is waged with sincere purpose to restrain evil, it tends to produce greater evils than those against which it is directed. The church, which is the body of Christ, set in the world to preach the Gospel of peace, must ever bear witness to this character of war. If occasions arise when the government deems it necessary to wage war, Christians, whether as private citizens or as public officers, are bound, in relation to it, to obey their consciences before God, who alone is Lord of the conscience; and the church must recognize and unhold their duty thus to obey conscience, whatever its commands may be. Whenever war occurs the church must be true to its nature as the universal Christian community, the body of Christ, whose members, even though scattered among the contending parties, must ever preserve the unity of the spirit in Christ, praying, laboring and suffering for one another and looking for the coming of the Kingdom of God, which is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

'Free from Military Participation'

The longest debate of the afternoon, in which Dr. Mackay came to Dr. Coffin's support, came over Section 13. Its text, as finally adopted, follows. The italicized portion is that inserted, upon motion by Dr. Coffin, after he said in answer to a query that he did not know what his words, "sustain to the utmost," might mean. The entire section was then approved, after a motion from the floor to delete the sentence opposing "military participation" had been rejected by a large vote, thus emphasizing the assembly's stand against intervention in the war.

"13. We humbly confess that our own nation shares in the guilt that has occasioned the present world conflict. *It is the duty of the church which worships a God of justice to distinguish the difference between enslaving dictatorships and those peoples valiantly defending their liberties and their spiritual heritage. It is the duty of our country to sustain them to the utmost in their brave struggle.* We are sensible of the fact that many among us feel the logic of our present position is to go the full length of offering our lives in battle array for the forces we have been aiding. But General Assembly records its conviction that much more is still to be gained in meeting the needs of the world by America remaining free from military participation in the present conflict, not in any spirit of selfish isolationism, nor of moral irresponsibility, but with a clear view of joining with other nations in constructive efforts toward a lasting peace. At the same time we recognize that honest differences of opinion exist today within the church as to the part our nation should take, and we solemnly declare that the church's chief duty is to stress the unity of the spirit in the midst of diversity of feeling. We therefore recognize as part of the church both the sincere conscience that feels the necessity of participation and the sincere conscience that cannot participate in the military struggle."

Conscription a Temporary Measure

The remainder of the resolution on "the church and peace" passed without controversy, although it contained some sections of far-reaching importance. It urged churches to study now and later peace

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policies "which Christians should be prepared to advance and support." It said that "no democracy can be sustained in an atmosphere of militarism," noted with approval the fact that the draft law is "temporary," said that "the present armament program must likewise be regarded as temporary," and called upon church members to "tolerate these measures only within the limits of the emergency." It commended the attitude of the draft law toward conscientious objectors and "commended as Christian every effort (under safeguards) to feed the hungry and care for the sick" in wartorn countries.

Little Progress toward Union

The cause of church union was not visibly advanced at St. Louis. The proposal to unite with the Protestant Episcopal Church had met opposition at the 1940 General Convention of that body. The General Assembly voted to encourage Presbyterians to worship with Episcopalians and urged those who cannot attend one of their own churches to go to an Episcopal church. Another meeting of the uniting commission is to meet at Princeton on June 26, but apparently the proposal is stalled at dead center. The move to unite the northern and the southern branches of Presbyterianism is proceeding along functional lines, with increasing cooperation in home missions, Christian education and work in army camps. While this cooperation is openly intended to lead to union, it moves as though union would be a "far-off, divine event." The proposal to unite with the United Presbyterian Church reached the stage seven years ago of a "plan of union" which was approved by the General Assembly, but was rejected by the United Presbyterians in 1934 and has not been revived. The General Assembly continues to cooperate with the World Council of Churches, and appointed eight delegates to represent it at the Toronto meeting.

The church, which has just raised a sesquicentennial fund of $10,281,258.20, adopted a budget for 1941-42 of $8,000,000, of which $11,200 goes to the Federal Council. An emergency fund of $650,000 is being raised. The retirement age of ministers will be reduced from 68 to 65 if the pension board accepts the counsel of this assembly. The 1942 General Assembly will meet in Milwaukee.

Rain—But Not Too Much

In debating whether the Presbyterian Church should launch a big evangelistic campaign now or appoint a committee to bring in a plan for approval next year, a commissioner cried: "We need rain—spiritual rain. We haven't had a good crop in a long time." A proponent of the calmer course replied: "Let's remember the farmer who prayed, 'Lord, send rain, but don't send a gully-washer. All we need is a drizzle-drozzle." The assembly voted for a drizzle-drozzle.

H.E.F.

Notre Dame Students Against War

More than 1,000 Notre Dame students have petitioned President Roosevelt to keep this country out of the European war, holding that the "interests of humanity" demand it and that the "defense of America and of democracy" will not be served by intervention.

Church Refuses to Enroll Objectors

United Presbyterians Leave That to Government — Missionaries to Continue Their Work—Religious Lag Deplored

(Special Correspondence)

INDIANAPOLIS, May 26. — Smooth efficiency brought the sessions of the 83rd General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church to an unhurried end one day ahead of schedule. This gathering of delegated ministers and ruling elders credited this result to the skill and thorough knowledge of the rules of order of the moderator, R. L. Lanning of Pittsburgh, generally known as the best parliamentarian in the church. The assembly rejected a request filed by several of the denomination's churches in Chicago that it enroll conscientious objectors as an aid to determining their sincerity. Instead it was agreed that "the United States government rather fully covers the field of discovering the sincerity of the conscientious objector." Authority was voted for appointing a committee to cooperate with the Federal Council of Churches in regard to conscientious objectors. The assembly called attention to the "deplorable breakdown of religion in the home in our day" and said that "certain conditions as they now prevail challenge the church to its utmost endeavor toward remedying the situation."

No Plan to Recall Missionaries

Practical concern with the missionary and educational program of the church occupied most of the delegates' attention. Approval was given to the recent action of the denomination's board of governors in naming six new workers to mission posts. No consideration is being given at this time to the withdrawal of missionaries or to retrenchment of the work; as long as conditions permit, all missionaries will remain. A widespread sense of relief was apparent when the assembly learned that its three missionaries on the Zamzam were safe. War and emergency relief appeals were accorded a hearing and given general approval, the assembly insisting that all such appeals channel through proper and approved agencies. The United Presbyterian Church plans to do its part in meeting human needs as it sees them. While the assembly evidenced a genuine interest in emergency needs as related to national defense and war, it showed no tendency toward permitting these concerns to deter it from what it deemed its major missionary and educational work as expressed in the program of the church. The meeting approved the national pension board's campaign to secure funds to increase the pensions of retired ministers from $400 to $600 a year.

Zwemer for Intervention

As in other national religious gatherings, it sometimes seemed that more interest attached to the associated popular meetings and the pre-assembly conference than to the official sessions of the assembly. The headliner at the pre-assembly gathering was the veteran missionary-professor, Samuel M. Zwemer. Dr. Zwemer still possesses at 74 all his oldtime fervor and evangelistic zeal. In a newspaper interview he declared himself "no pacifist," and said that this is a war of principles, with Hitler representing ideals so antagonistic to our own that "we'd better crush him now" or look forward to "fighting the battle for democracy here over again." He predicts German failure at Suez.

Filipinos Unprepared for Freedom

Another speaker at the popular meetings was E. K. Higdon, foreign missions secretary of the Disciples of Christ. "The war that is raging," said he, "is a result of international anarchy. We may expect such wars every 20 or 25 years until Christians give more thought to the teachings of Christ." In speaking of the Philippines, Mr. Higdon said the Tydings-McDuffie act, which grants complete independence in 1946, will leave that country unprepared for economic independence. He urged that "Christian Americans should help Congress to understand and discharge its moral obligation to the Filipino people by changing the present law so that it will not carry its disastrous implications for Philippine economic and social life."

Columbus, Ohio, was chosen as the place for the meeting of the General Assembly in 1942.

GEORGE WALKER BUCKNER, JR.

Honolulu Made Head Of Diocese

Msgr. James Joseph Sweeney of San Francisco has been appointed first Roman Catholic bishop of Honolulu, T. H. Formerly a mission, Honolulu was made a diocese by the pope last February.

Hocking Says Religion Better Than Psychiatry for Souls

In a recent lecture at the University of North Carolina Dr. William E. Hocking, head of the department of philosophy at Harvard, said that "religion has done better justice to the basic requirements of the cure of souls than has modern psychology."

Fight Free Textbooks for Oregon Parochial Schools

The business committee of the Portland school board, the executive board of the Oregon P.T.A., and the Association Against Public Taxes for Private Schools have combined to fight a law enacted by the Oregon legislature which would provide free textbooks for private and parochial schools. The bill will not go into effect for about 60 days, and if referred to the voters will await the election of November 1942.

Episcopalians Drafting New Marriage Law

A "completely new study" of the problems of marriage and divorce is now being made by the recently reorganized "Joint Commission on Holy Matrimony" of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The study will form the basis of a new canon law to be presented to the next general convention of the church in 1943. Some 42 diocesan committees have been appointed to assist in the study. Special research committees will shortly be established in all of the church's theological seminaries to make a historical inquiry into the whole subject of Christian marriage.

Federal Council Gains Member

Southern Presbyterians Renew Ties after Decade—Move Toward Unity—Support C.O.'s—Mission Debts Cut

(Special Correspondence)

MONTREAT, May 28.—Southern Presbyterians held their 81st annual assembly this year at Montreat, N. C., the beautiful summer conference ground of the denomination. The opening sermon was preached by the retiring moderator, Frank C. Brown of Dallas. Charles E. Diehl, president of Southwestern Presbyterian University, Memphis, was elected to succeed him.

Re-Enter Council After Decade

One of the first actions of the body was to invite the president of the Federal Council of Churches to speak. Dr. Weigle's address was followed by an overwhelming vote in favor of re-entering the council. Of course there was opposition. The old feeling that Christendom can be saved only by a rigid adherence to the exact phraseology of our fathers is far from dead. We were warned on the floor of the assembly that the council was a political organization. We were told that our one duty was to preach the gospel—whatever that phrase may mean. It was said that we had nothing to do with the seeking of a basis for a just and durable peace. We were especially reminded that entering the council would cause denominational division and distraction from the fundamental work of evangelism. A persistent effort was made to delay our entrance by sending the question down to be voted on by the presbyteries. This was defeated by a decisive majority. So we came out of the council ten years ago by action of the assembly, and now we have gone back into membership by the same route.

Presbyterian Union a Possibility

It is of interest to note that an apology was made when we withdrew for "any unfortunate expressions" that had been used in the discussions. This year the debate was all in good spirit and so far as could be observed there were no apologies necessary. Honest men voted as they honestly felt and the church at large will be inclined to abide by the results. Probably the present world situation had much to do with our reversal of position and it may be that force of circumstances will keep us in the council in spite of efforts that may be made to draw us out again. In the same connection it can be reported that we continued our committee of conference with the Presbyterian Church U. S. A. and the prospect is at least a little brighter for a union of the main bodies of Presbyterianism in this country.

Attack on Thompson Fails

The thing which aroused the deepest interest during the assembly was the attack made by a layman on the orthodoxy of E. T. Thompson, beloved professor of history in our Union Seminary in Virginia. By a rather circuitous route the question was put before us and it was thought by a large majority of the commissioners that the constitutional rights of Dr. Thompson had been violated. He was attacked in every presbytery and synod through pamphlets and letters although there is another and more direct method for bringing accusations against a suspected brother. Dr. Thompson had been fully sustained by the board of trustees of his seminary and by the presbytery of which he is a member, so the assembly refused to go behind the judgment of those who are rightfully prepared to speak in the case.

It is true that Dr. Thompson does not always use the phraseology of 1642. It is also true that he is heartily in accord with "the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures." There are perfectly sincere men among us who do not see that both the above statements can be correct. In

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spite of what John Calvin himself said in his *Institutes* long before our confession of faith was written, even his magic name seems to be insufficient to quiet some of these persistent heresy hunters who know little of logic and even less of philosophy. They insist on defining their own terms and trying their own cases. The high point of our seven-day meeting was the defense of his colleague by President B. R. Lacy of the seminary.

Literalists Behind New Move

Probably the fate of our church is even more immediately involved in a matter which was postponed until next year. This was the question of "dispensationalism." The "dispensationalists" are literal-minded men who have taken a particular idea of the second coming of Christ and have exalted it into a test for all other truth. The fact that we are a cautious people gives the dispensationalist a fruitful field among us. We incline to accept any writer who sprinkles his pages with Scripture quotations. We look with favor on "Bible institutes" and fear "godless universities." The consequence is that we have quite a number of so-called seminaries which send out a steady stream of men into our ministry. These men are not Presbyterians either in theory or in practice. The fact that they divide all history into "dispensations" is not of importance when compared with their general attitude toward God and the revelation of himself. They are all followers of Dr. Scofield who died as a member of one of our presbyteries.

In the main the condition of our church is good. Our foreign and home mission debts are being reduced although there is some question as to whether we are paying debts by refusing to enter new fields. Our denomination, along with all others, faces real problems in the matter of supporting its colleges and universities in a day when the state is pouring its wealth into education that is not church directed. We will probably decide to retire our ministers at 70. This proposal is to be voted on by the presbyteries. Our committee on social and moral welfare seems at last to be accepted as a fixture among us and it is authorized to look after the interests of conscientious objectors. We go to Knoxville for our meeting in 1942.

D. P. McGeachy.

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Peace Congress Meets in Capital

Over 2,500 Hear Wheeler — Thomas Says American Destiny Is Here— Condemns Arms Economy

(Special Correspondence)

Washington, D. C., May 31.—Over 600 registered delegates from 25 states attended the Keep America Out of War Congress here this week end. Some 2,500 people attended its opening session to hear Senator Wheeler express surprise that the President's speech had frightened nobody away. The principal speakers and leaders were Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Norman Thomas, A. J. Muste, John T. Flynn, Mrs. Robert A. Taft, Frederick J. Libby, Jeannette Rankin, Oswald Garrison Villard, Paul Comly French, Bernard C. Clausen and Mary A. Hillyer, who acted as executive director of the congress. The meeting was sponsored by the Keep America Out of War Congress, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the National Council for Prevention of War, the War Resisters League, the Youth Committee Against War and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

The sessions lasted over Memorial Day and the two following days. On Saturday round table conferences were held under the following themes: Guns or Butter—Armaments Economics vs. Economics of Abundance; Civil Liberties, Labor, Pressure Groups; Conscription and Conscientious Objectors; America Looks South; U. S. Foreign Policy and Peace Aims and World Federation. The accommodations provided in the National Council for the Prevention of War headquarters building were not large enough to hold the delegates who wished to participate. Discussion was spirited and covered every angle of the problem.

America's True Destiny

Norman Thomas gave a prepared radio speech Saturday night over Columbia network from the National Press Club auditorium. He was loudly applauded by a crowd which taxed the facilities of the hall. Mr. Thomas closed his address by saying: "An America which will keep out of war and make her own democracy work can ultimately bring blessings to mankind that she can never bring in war. If we can unite freedom to the conquest of poverty, we can kindle the light which ultimately will put to flight even the darkness of the lands under dictatorship, as the morning sun puts to flight the shadows of the night. This is our true and glorious destiny."

Far Eastern Question Debated

The possibility of a peace in the Pacific was discussed in the foreign policy section. William Henry Chamberlin, author of *Japan Over Asia,* declared: "It still might be possible for America to sponsor a settlement which would provide for the evacuation by Japan of large areas of China which the Japanese have proved unable to occupy effectively and for all-round economic cooperation between the

countries in the Far East and American participation in the financial and economic reconstruction which will be necessary both in Japan and in China after the deep injuries which the war has inflicted on the economics of both countries. . . . America lacks even the selfish argument of imperialism for going to war in the Orient. American commercial interests in the Far East have been promoted by peaceful trade, not by the imperialist method of annexation and control. . . . A total economic boycott of Japan, the stoppage of oil shipments for instance, would push Japan into the arms of the Axis. Economic war would be a prelude to naval and military war."

It was pointed out in the discussion that "a war with Japan would cost 50 billion dollars which is more than the profit on all our export trade to Japan for the next 400 years."

On Arms Economy

The resolution on arms economy follows: "An armament economy is one which gives up the attempt to expand the economic activities which produce the life of the people, and turns to the expansion of those designed to produce death. . . .

"It is not yet too late to reverse or at least to halt the trend toward the total militarization of the American economy. It is not yet too late to follow instead the path toward total democracy. Our failure of the past 50 years to create conditions ensuring a minimum of immunity from international conflicts shows the inadequacy of our present economic system. That there is no possibility of patching up this system is proved by the scores of billions of public funds spent in recent years to bolster up our private economy by deficit financing. The present hysterical armaments program is only a larger and more wasteful outlay for destruction and organized ruin."

"An economic system built on the private corporate basis is at odds with a political system based on democratic equality. The fascist answer to that contradiction is to scrap political democracy and get a totalitarian system which unites economics and politics in the worst of all possible ways. The democratic answer to that contradiction is to scrap corporate economic dictatorship for a cooperative and socialized economic order which can live in the same house with political democracy. This is what we mean when we reject the system of armaments economics and declare for the economics of abundance."

Final Session Held at Sylvan Theater

Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin, in introducing Bernard Clausen, the speaker of the afternoon, urged her audience to really do something about keeping America out of war. Dr. Clausen made it clear that choice of weapons is important for peace as well as war.

"We can win this war by insisting that we meet our foe in a field where we hold the weapons. Every nation is in conflict. England isn't Churchill. France isn't Laval. Italy isn't Mussolini. Nor is America Roosevelt. But each nation is in conflict, reaching out toward what seems to it a reasonable destiny. We would be ashamed to treat individuals as we do nations. Instead, let us search out the best and finest in each and build on that—brotherhood and peace." Forty-two members were elected to the governing board of the Keep America Out of War Congress. New officers and members included Oswald Garrison Villard, who was elected as honorary chairman.

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***The Great Commandment** (Fox) John Beal, Albert Dekker, M. Moscovitch	*Drama.* Young zealot seeks out Jesus, hoping to find him a military leader. Instead, is moved by message of love and forgiveness to return and practice it, despite protest by family and comrades.	While somewhat stiffly written and directed, film is remarkably simple and convincing, in contrast to certain elaborate biblical films of the past. And the theme is decidedly worth while. Would be effective for use by churches. *Deserving of support.* **M, Y, C**
Red Head (Mono.) Eric Blore, Johnny Downs, June Lang	*Comedy.* Spoiled young millionaire is reformed by marriage he had arranged to wheedle money from his family.	*Artificial and amateurish.*
Scattergood Pulls the Strings (RKO) Guy Kibbee, Bobs Watson	*Drama.* Kindly philosopher of *American Magazine* stories helps small wanderer find his father; rights things for young couple.	A decided improvement on first in this film series. Rather impossible ease with which problems are solved is more than compensated for by *pleasant, homey atmosphere.* **M, Y, C**
Sieg im Westen (Official German film)	*Documentary* of German push through Low Countries and France, with portions declaring the move a defense measure. Little opposition shown, and "horror" omitted.	Seeks to prove nazi case and impress audiences with invincibility of nazi armed might. Although designed obviously to frighten prospective enemies, it will probably serve here only to arouse opposition to nazi program. *An opportunity to observe nazi propaganda technique.* **M**
Sunny (RKO) Ray Bolger, John Carroll, E. E. Horton, Anna Neagle, Helen Westley	*Comedy,* with music and dancing (tunes from Jerome Kern musical). Romance of circus performer and wealthy young manufacturer, with Mardi Gras setting.	While story is fragile, the dancing numbers and vaudeville sequences inserted are delightfully spontaneous. *Tuneful, light, gay.* **M, Y**

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The 20th Century Quarterly

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